



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: John K. Ford
Group Art Unit: 3743

In re Application of:
G. Morris

Serial No. 09/674,256
Filed December 12, 2000

HEAT EXCHANGE ASSEMBLY

Attorney Docket No. 282318-00008

8/A
JHaw
3-28-03

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

March 10, 2003

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 9, 2002, please amend the specification and the claims as follows:

In the Specification:

Please rewrite pages 8-11 of the specification as follows:

As is seen in more detail in FIGS 6 and 7, lateral joining strips 28 have a plurality of laterally disposed, outwardly directed and longitudinally extending ribs 49 separated by inwardly directed grooves or slots 30, and a pair of opposed flanges 42 and 43. A plurality of apertures 31 extend along the length of strip 28 for receiving nails 29. In use, the lateral edges of sheets 16, 17, 20 and 21 extending beyond the outermost spacing ribs 18, 22 and 24 are adapted to be closely received in grooves 30 with flanges 42 and 43 being closely received above and below adjoining panels to provide a weatherproof seal along the lateral sides of the panels.

Joining strips 28 can be made from suitable plastic, rubberised material, fibreglass, aluminium or rolled steel. Suitable mastic sealers can also be used to improve weatherproofing.

Alternatively in an embodiment not illustrated, the joining strips can be replaced by providing a longitudinally extending female socket arrangement along one side edge